	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Grams (excl. split)	5890	876	3075	388	3220	347	1152	222	3366	637	241	49
Gram dal (grams, split)	990	118	179	21	215	31	9325	1,776	7962	1,648	3709	770
Moong	52377	6,053	25011	3,501	20672	3,156	8697	1,540	9673	2,010	6440	1,593
Tur(Arhar)	80189	6,553	82461	13,223	89541	14,007	5372	1,005	4242	1,099	2511	726
Urd	13768	1,665	69953	11,292	20255	3,416	6003	1,182	7444	1,947	5469	1,413
Others	54426	5,254	15068	1,790	34240	4,742	2880	538	4320	869	1353	298

Source : D.G. C.I. & S. Calcutta

Indo-Bangladesh Border Trade

1719. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Standing Committee attached with the Ministry of Commerce have since examined the potentialities of India-Bangladesh border trade;

(b) if so, the essential features of the report;

(c) the recommendations thereof; and

(d) the actions taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d) The Seventeenth Report of the Parliament Standing Committee on Commerce (1995-96) on "Emerging Trade Prospects with Bangladesh" of December'95 examined various aspects of India-Bangladesh trade including border trade which is covered by para 43-45 of the Report. The observations of the Standing Committee related to the provisions for Border Trade in Article IV of the Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement of 28.3.1972 which could not be impiemented due to hesitation on the side of the Bangladesh Government on various grounds. The Standing Committee however did not make any recommendations on Border Trade with Bangladesh. The Report was presented to Rajya Sabha on 15.12.1995 and laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 22.12.1995.

A Sub-Committee of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce is looking into the various aspects of the development of potential for commerce in the North-Eastern region by encouraging trade with neighbouring and South-East Asian countries including the possibilities of border trade with Bangladesh. The Sub-Committee is yet to present its Report.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts of ST/SC

1720. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT :

DR. BALIRAM :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes lying vacant under his Ministry/ departments as on date;

(b) whether some candidates from other catego-ries have been working on the reserved posts;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) the action being taken to clear the backlog ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) In the Ministry of Coal and its subrodinate offices, as on date, 3 posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and 4 posts reserved for Scheduled Tribes are lying vacant.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Does not arise.

(d) These vacancies have been intimated to the concerned recruiting agencies for making selection.

[English]

Under Invoicing of Import

1721. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelli-gence is investigating a number of export houses, suspected of large scale under invoicing of imports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the companies under investiga-tion of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, it will not be in public interest to disclose the names of the companies, since this may adversely affect the on-going investigation.

(c) Twenty four companies are presently under investigation. However, it will also not be in public interest to

disclose the names of the companies, since this may adversely affect the on-going investigation.

Outstanding Amount Against Big Industrial Houses

1722. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of major industrial houses of the country against which Government's amount is outstanding at present, with details of amount;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to recover this amount; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The Government is not maintaining any list of industrial houses as the industrial houses are not required to get themselves registered, consequent upon the omission of Section 26 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 (MRTP Act, 1969) by the MRTP (Amendment) Act, 1991 with effect from 27.9.1991. Therefore the "Industrial houses-wise" information regarding recovery of outstanding dues is also not maintained.

(b) and (c) Field formations have been directed to take necessary administrative and legal measures envisaged under the statutes to recover the outstanding amount. Concerned courts are also requested for early hearings and vacation of stay orders.

Sugar Export

1723. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Financial Express dated July 9, 1997 captioned "Government move to decanalise sugar exports fail";

(b) if so, the reaction and facts of the matter;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken for mid-course policy correction, if any; and

(d) the details of pragmatic plan of action proposed for promotion of export of sugar to imporve financial performance of sugar units in the country for clearance of mounting sugarcane arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority issued a Trade Note on 25.04.1997 inviting applications for issue of Registration-Cum-Allocation Certificate (RCAC) for export of 1,55,658 Mts. of sugar. Till 29.07.1997, RCAC's for export of 1,29,155.50 Mts. of sugar have been issued. The exports of sugar depend upon a host of factors such as international prices, expectations of buyers and sellers regarding future international prices, international demand and supply position, consumer preference and other terms and conditions of trade. The total quantity of sugar earmarked for exports is expected to be exported. With export earnings, the liquidity position of the sugar mills is likely to improve which would enable them to meet their financial obligations including clearance of sugarcane arrears.

Waiver of Obligations from World Trade Organisations

1724. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has turned down the suggestion of the industrialised nations to seek a waiver of obligations annually from the World Trade Organisation General Council;

(b) if so, whether the Indian stand was not acceptable to delegations from the US and the European Community;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the countries which supported India's stand; and

(e) the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (e) At the resumed consultations, on the plan presented by India for the phased elimination of quantitative restrictions on imports maintained under the provisions of Article XVIII:B of the GATT 1994, in the Committee on Balance of Payments Restrictions of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) with India held on 30 June- 1 July 1997, there was disagreement, inter alia, on the issue of disinvocation of Article XVIII:B by India. Some developed countries, in particular the European Communities and the United States of Amercia, wanted India to announce that as the foreign exchange position had improved. India no longer has any justification for retaining the balance for of payments cover. This was not agreed to by India as there would then be no legal cover for residual quantitative restrictions and India would be vulnerable to disputes in the residual period of the plan. The developed countries had proposed that India may seek, from the General Council, a waiver of obligations every year under the provisions of Article IX of the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organisation. India's view was that there was a clear Provision in the Understanding of Balance of Payments provisions of GATT 1994 that in those cases in which a time schedule has been presented for the removal of restrictive measures taken for balance of payments purposes, the General Council may recommend that, in adhering to such a time-scheduled, a Member shall be deemed to be in compliance with its GATT 1994 obligation. This provision, in India's view provides comparable legal certainty to both India and its trading partners. Brazil, Peru and Pakistan supported the Indian stand on disinvocation. The consultations with India concluded without consensus.